

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Docket: 1998DE503/Cont

Reinhard Doenges et al

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Serial No. To be Assigned

(Continuation of SN 09/427,351)  
(Filed: October 26, 1999)

Filed: September 19, 2001

For: Water-Soluble, Sulfoalkyl-Containing, Hydrophobically Modified Cellulose Ethers, Processes For Preparing Them, And Their Use In Emulsion Paints

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fee for the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, line 3, delete "Description".

Page 1, lines 5-6, capitalize the title of the invention: -- WATER-SOLUBLE, SULFOALKYL-CONTAINING, HYDROPHOBICALLY MODIFIED CELLULOSE ETHERS, PROCESS FOR PREPARING THEM, AND THEIR USE IN EMULSION PAINTS --.

Page 1, line 7, insert the following paragraph:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/427,351, filed October 26, 1999.--

Page 2, line 1, insert: --DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

Page 2, line 20, insert: --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 3, line 1, insert: --DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED  
EMBODIMENTS--.

Page 6, line 7, insert: --EXAMPLES--.

Page 19, line 1, delete "What is claimed is" and substitute therefor  
--CLAIMS--.

Page 13, line 1, delete "Abstract" and substitute therefor --ABSTRACT OF  
THE DISCLOSURE--.

**In the Claims**

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

-- 1. (Once Amended) A water-soluble ionic cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyalkylcellulose having on average from 0.001 to 1.0 alkyl group per anhydroglucose unit substitutions and from 0.01 to 0.1 sulfoalkyl group per anhydroglucose unit, wherein the degree of hydroxyalkylation is greater than 2.3.

## REMARKS

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees, please enter this amendment.  
The amendment to claim 1 is fully supported by the original application as filed.  
No new matter has been added.

Basis for the amendment of claim 1, may be found in the tables of examples 1 through 7 of the specification as originally filed (pages 7 through 13). Specifically, the cellulose molecule can be substituted at three different positions. Each position can only be substituted with one alkyl-group or with one sulfoalkyl-group. As a consequence thereof, these substituents are defined as "degree of substitution (DS)". In contrast to the alkyl- and sulfoalkyl-group, each position can be substituted with more than one hydroxyalkyl-group, because these groups can lead to chains containing one or more alkoxy-groups. Therefore, the hydroxyalkyl-groups are defined as "molar substitution (MS)". The two definitions "degree of substitution" and "molar substitution" are well known to a person of ordinary skill in the chemical arts. As can be seen especially from table 1, the examples according to the present invention have a molar substitution of the hydroxyalkyl-group, i.e. hydroxyethyl-group, of greater than 2.3.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

Attached herewith is a separate sheet entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE" showing all changes made to the specification and claims.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 9 and 10.

Amend claims 1 as follows:

-- 1. (Once Amended) A water-soluble ionic cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyalkylcellulose having [from the group of hydroxyalkylcelluloses which is substituted by] on average from 0.001 to 1.0 alkyl group per anhydroglucose unit substitutions and [which carries] from 0.01 to 0.1 sulfoalkyl group per anhydroglucose unit, wherein the degree of hydroxyalkylation is greater than

2.3.--.